

SLOANE MANUSCRIPT 5286; AN IMPORTANT SOURCE FOR DECADE 9, 'HERBARIUM CAPENSE' OF PETIVER'S GAZOPHYLACIUM NATURAE AND ARTIS†

PHYLLIS I. EDWARDS

(*British Museum [Natural History]*)

James Petiver (1663 or 4—1718) built one of the most extensive museums of natural history curiosities of the Sloane period. His apothecary shop in Aldersgate was familiar to shipmasters, merchants, planters, surgeons, consuls, and many others whose livelihood took them abroad. In 1695, the year he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, he began the systematic description of plants, animals and fossils in his Museum.

The caption to Decade 9 of Petiver's *Gazophylacium* reads: 'Figures of one hundred elegant plants, all growing about the Cape of Good Hope and copied from original paintings taken from the living plants, viz, those which the State of Amsterdam presented to the Right Reverend the Bishop of London (Compton) when his Lordship was at the Congress there in A.D. 1691, and concludes 'with above fifty others painted from growing plants lately purchased from the Cape'.

A set of drawings in the Department of Botany, British Museum (Natural History) Banksian Manuscript No. 88 has been considered to be the collection Petiver purchased from the Cape. This collection (Dryander, *Cat. Bibl. Banks*, Vol. 3, 178 and British Museum (Nat. Hist.) *Catalogue*, Vol. 4, 1558) is however merely poor copies of 73 drawings in the collection of drawings of Cape plants which form Sloane Manuscript 5286 in the British Museum. This Sloane Manuscript has been considered by some to have been the collection of Cape drawings

† Accepted for publication 1st February, 1968.

given to Bishop Compton in 1691 although evidence in the text to Decade 9 of Petiver's *Gazophylacium* disproves this assumption. In the caption to Tab. 90, fig. 9 Petiver states 'I am obliged . . . of the greatest part of the paintings in this Decade which he (Dr. Martin Dolneus) procured to be drawn on the spot from original plants growing luxuriently wild about that fertile Promontory the Cape of Good Hope'. Sloane Manuscript 3336 f. 13 contains a draft of a letter from Petiver dated 10th December 1707, to Bishop Compton in which he states "I have lately purchased a very curious collection of about 80 paintings of Cape plants each superbly done on large Imperial paper, most of them altogether new and among them are many very amazing bulbs, these I shall be proud to show his Lordship". This collection, acquired through Dolneus, is in fact the source for 74 out of the 100 engravings in the *Herbarium Capense*. Petiver further states in the caption to Tab. 87, fig. 7 'This and the next being very elegant and peculiar plants I have presumed to hand down to posterity under the patronage of his Lordship the Bishop of London . . . being highly obliged to him for the Copies* of them from his paintings, which he pleased lately to send.' These two engravings (Tab. 87, figs. 7 & 8) are among the 26 engravings for which no original drawings have, so far, been traced in Great Britain. The plants represented in these 26 engravings were among those seen on the expedition of Simon Van der Stel (1639–1712) to Namaqualand in 1685–6 and drawn (there is still some doubt about this, Smith 1952) by Hendrik Claudius. Sets of drawings relating to his expedition are in the South African Museum, South African Public Library, Africana Museum, Johannesburg and Trinity College, Dublin. Not all these sets are alike, each contains a different collection of drawings.

The set in Dublin is included in Fagel (1765–1838) Manuscript 984, which is considered by Waterhouse (1932) to be the official report made by Simon Van der Stel to the Dutch East India Company which was removed from their archives about 1691 or 1692. Petiver states in the caption to Tab. 85, fig. 2 that this engraving was made from the first drawing in Bishop Compton's Collection; this is also the first drawing in the Fagel Manuscript. Barnard (1947) uses the abbreviation T.C.D. when referring to the Fagel collection of drawings and I propose to follow him here. The numbers of the copies of the T.C.D. drawings that correspond to the engravings in the *Herbarium Capense* are given in Table 1.

* Sloane Manuscript 5286 is entitled "A Volume of Plants growing about the Cape of Good Hope among which are the Copies of the original paintings which the State of Amsterdam presented to Dr. Compton, Bishop of London when he was at the Congress there in 1691". They are figured for the most part in Mr. Petiver's *Gazophylacium*. The copies of Bishop Compton's drawings are not included as stated above.

TABLE 1.

T.C.D.	853	Tab.	81	Fig.	8
	831	"	82	"	4
	803	"	83	"	7
	863			"	8
	787			"	10
	813			"	11
	841	"	84	"	2
	825			"	4
	785	"	85	"	2
	839			"	3
	849	"	87	"	6
	789			"	7
	795			"	8
	799	"	87	"	9
	823			"	10
	847			"	11
	833			"	12

Further copies of T.C.D. drawings occur on the following plates of an earlier part of the *Gazophylacium*, in Decade 6, Table 2.

TABLE 2.

T.C.D.	855	Tab.	57	Fig.	1
	819			"	4
	809			"	5
	817			"	6
	793			"	7
	815	"	58	"	1
	829			"	2
	835			"	3
	859			"	4

Although Petiver mentions, in the text to Decade 9 that the Bishop only provided him with copies of drawings, he does quite clearly state in the heading to this Decade that the engravings were made from the Bishop's and his own collection of Cape drawings. Compton's collection must therefore have consisted of or included a set of Claudius Namaqualand drawings.

There are 92 folios in Sloane Manuscript 5286. All, except the first folio, have but one drawing. On the first folio are mounted two sheets, containing together, seven small drawings. For the purposes of numbering, these two sheets have been considered to form folios 1 and 2. Engravings of these drawings occur in Decade 7/8, Tab. 77 fig. 3, 9 and 10 and Tab. 78 fig. 2, 3, 9 and 10. They represent different kinds of 'fig. marigold' which Petiver states in his text 'Mr. Gardner of the Temple Garden gave me in flower about the beginning of June 1706'. These drawings would therefore have been made in London and not at

the Cape like the rest of the collection. The Temple Garden, lying between Fleet Street and the Embankment, is still in existence. It is maintained for the pleasure of the inhabitants of chambers in the Inner Temple. Some account of the garden, which in Petiver's day was in fact three separate gardens; The Great Garden, the Benchers' Garden and the Privy Garden is given in Williamson (1925). Petiver's reference to it indicates it was one of the gardens in London where new introductions from overseas were being cultivated. The drawings on folio 3—92 are all by the same artist. Although they are by a competent artist they do not show the same degree of botanical accuracy as shown in the sets of drawings in South African Institutions; in Dublin and the set that is in the British Museum (Natural History). All but eight drawings in the Sloane Manuscript bear a reference to the *Gazophylacium* Tab., Fig. and Catalogue number and also have as a heading, the Latin name of the plant. These annotations are not in Petiver's hand. They must have been added after 1764, because the Catalogue number was not given in the first edition of the *Gazophylacium* but was inserted in the edition of Petiver's entire works published in 1764. Some of the plants depicted are represented in the other collections mentioned above but there is no other set like it or it would appear, by the same artist.

There were obviously drawings of some plants in both the Petiver and Compton collections. Petiver would appear to have copied his own set: for example, three of the Aloe illustrations Tab. 88 Figs. 1—3 are, as Reynolds (1950) points out, different from all the other representations of these particular plants. The fourth Aloe figure Tab. 89, fig. 9 was clearly copied from Plukenet's engraving Tab. 127 in Vol. 1 of his *Phytographia*, 1691.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the very kind assistance of Prof. H. B. Rycroft of the National Botanic Gardens of South Africa at Kirstenbosch and to thank Miss W. F. Barker, Curator of the Compton Herbarium for providing the determinations of the plants illustrated in Petiver's *Gazophylacium*. I also wish to thank the Department of Manuscripts at the British Museum for permission to have the drawings photographed and some reproduced in this paper.



- PLATE 1A. *Spartium capense luteum foliis capillaceis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 83 fig. 3.
Lebeckia simsiana E & Z (Leguminosae) Folio 30
- B. *Sisyrinchium capense spicatum petalis multifidis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 87 fig. 5.
Wurmbea spicata (Burm.) Dur. (Liliaceae) Folio 82
- C. *Spartium capense flore coeruleo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 83 fig. 2.
Aspalathus microphylla DC? (Leguminosae) Folio 31
- D. *Geranium capense frutescens aceris folio*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 84 fig. 5.
Pelargonium angulosum Ait. (Geraniaceae) Folio 43
- E. *Geranium capense frutescens saniculae folio*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 84 fig. 7.
Pelargonium sp. (Geraniaceae) Folio 40
- F. *Erica capensis carneis urceolatis staminibus rubris*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 7.
Erica sp.? (Ericaceae) Folio 80
- G. *Geranium capense cicutaria folio luteum*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 84 fig. 10.
Pelargonium triste (L) Ait. (Geraniaceae) Folio 42
- H. *Geranium myrrhidis folio cinereo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 84 fig. 12.
Pelargonium flavum (L) Ait. (Geraniaceae) Folio 41
- I. *Geranium capense frutescens ribesii folio*. *Pet. Gaz.* 84 fig. 6.
Erodium sp. (Geraniaceae) Folio 39



- PLATE 2A. *Ornithogalum umbellatum ornatissimum purpureum*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 85, fig. 4.
 "Father Tachard has figured this elegant shrub, but without leaves, a tassel of which Mr. John Starrenburg sent me from thence"
Boophane sp.? (Amaryllidaceae) Folio 87
- B. *Tulipa affinis capensis rubra caule maculato*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 86 fig. 4.
Haemanthus sp. (Amaryllidaceae) Folio 86
 (Leaves and flowers appear separately)
- C. *Orchis capensis alba caule rubro maculato*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 86 fig. 1.
Satyrium acuminatum Lindl.? (Orchidaceae) Folio 69
- D. *Orchis capensis aurea foliis concavis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 85 fig. 1.
Satyrium striatum Thunb.? (Orchidaceae) Folio 73
- E. *Ficoides capense apocyni folio flore magno coeruleo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 88, fig. 4.
Othonna sp. (Compositae) Folio 88
- F. *Ficoides capens clavato folio flore aureo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 88 fig. 7.
Dorotheanthus sp. (Mesembryanthemaceae) Folio 51
- G. *Aloe capensis cepa folio pinoides*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 89 fig. 1.
Cotyledon wallichii (Crassulaceae) Folio 66
- H. *Sedum capense frutescens folio subrotundo crasso*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 89 fig. 4.
Cotyledon orbiculata L. (Crassulaceae) Folio 61



- PLATE 3A. *Apocynum capense fritularicum minus*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 4.
Stapelia variegata L. (Asclepiadaceae) Folio 35
- B. *Elychrysum capense camphoratae foliis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 82 fig. 6.
Helichrysum sp. (Compositae) Folio 25
- C. *Dens leonis, capensis barbareae folio*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 81 fig. 2.
Othonna sp. (Compositae) Folio [no number]
- D. *Euphorbia capense pinoides flore albo coronato, petalis in cisis*. *Pet. Gaz.*
 Tab. 90 fig. 2.
Euphorbia caput-medusae L (Euphorbiaceae) Folio 60
- E. *Centarium capense folio angusto*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 6.
Vauanthes dichotoma (L.) Ok. (Crassulaceae) Folio 56
- F. *Bellis capensis umbellifera frutescens*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 81 fig. 7.
Osmitopsis sp. (Compositae) Folio 92
- G. *Ficoides capensis folio lato undulato flore purpureo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 88 fig. 5.
Othonna sp. (Compositae) Folio 76
- H. *Elychrysum capense phalaroides pedis cati foliis minus*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 82 fig. 3.
Helichrysum sp. (Compositae) Folio 22



- PLATE 4A. *Tilianoides capensis vaginis laicratis floribus luteis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 8.
Aponogeton sp. (Aponogetonaceae) Folio 85
- B. *Dolneus capensis foliis ter trinis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 9.
Crassula sp. (Crassulaceae) Folio 77
- C. *Leonurus capensis foliis non serratis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 82 fig. 11
Leonotis sp. (Labiatae) Folio 26
- D. *Cotula capensis lutea ramosior*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 81 fig. 12.
Ursina sp. (Compositae) Folio 12
- E. *Sisyrinchium capense roseum ramosum*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 87 fig. 2.
Synnotia sp.? (Iridaceae) Folio 78
- F. *Centaurium capense luteum gallii foliis*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 90 fig. 5.
Pharnaceum sp.? (Asclepiadaceae) Folio 46
- G. *Sedum capense umbellatum flore albido*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 89 fig. 7.
Crassula sp.? or *Rochea subulata* (Crassulaceae) Folio 47
- H. *Sedum capense pinastri folio flore specioso aureo*. *Pet. Gaz.* Tab. 89 fig. 5.
Erica sp.? (Ericaceae) Folio 91

DETERMINATIONS OF PLANTS ILLUSTRATED IN DECADE 9 OF
PETIVER'S GAZOPHYLACIUM

Tab. LXXXVII (77)

Fig. 3	?	(Mesembryanthemaceae)
Fig. 9	?	(")
Fig. 10	Cephalophyllum sp. ??	(")

Tab. LXXXVIII (78)

Fig. 2	Conicosia sp.	(Mesembryanthemaceae)
Fig. 3	Aridaria sp.	(")
Fig. 9	"	(")
Fig. 10	Hydrodea sp.	(")

Tab. LXXXI (79)

Fig. 1	Othonna	(Compositae)
Fig. 2	?	(")
Fig. 3	?	(")
Fig. 4	?	(")
Fig. 5	Nidorella or Conyza	(")
Fig. 6	Athanasia	(")
Fig. 7	Osmitopsis	(")
Fig. 9	?	(")
Fig. 10	Gamolepsis	(")
Fig. 11	Ursinia	(")
Fig. 12	Ursinia	(")

Tab. LXXXII (82)

Fig. 2	Helichrysum	(Compositae)
Fig. 3	Helichrysum sp.?	(")
Fig. 4	Helichrysum sp.?	(")
Fig. 5	? Selago?	(Selaginaceae)
Fig. 6	Metalasia muricata? Less	(Compositae)
Fig. 7	Scabiosa sp.?	(Dipsaceae)?
Fig. 8	Scabiosa sp.?	(Dipsaceae)?
Fig. 9	?	(")
Fig. 10	Pteronia sp.	(Compositae)
Fig. 11	Leonotis sp.	(Labiatae)

Tab. LXXXIII (83)

Fig. 1	Cyphia bulbosa Berg.	(Campanulaceae)
Fig. 2	Aspalathus microphylla DC?	(Leguminosae)
Fig. 3	Lebeckia simsiana E & Z	(")
Fig. 4	Indigofera sp.?	(")
Fig. 5	Lotononis sp.?	(")
Fig. 6	Lotononis sp.?	(")
Fig. 12	Limonium sp.? or Drosera capensis?	(Plumbaginaceae)
		(Droseraceae)

Tab. LXXXIV (84)

Fig. 1	Xysmalobium undulatum R. Br.	(Asclepiadaceae)
Fig. 3	Asclepias sp.?	(")
Fig. 5	Pelargonium angulosum Ait.	(Geraniaceae)
Fig. 6	Erodium sp.	(")
Fig. 7	Pelargonium sp.	(")
Fig. 8	Pelargonium echinatum (Thunb) Curt	(")
Fig. 9	Pelargonium fulgidum Willd.	(")
Fig. 10	Pelargonium triste (L) Ait.	(")
Fig. 11	Pelargonium hirsutum (Burm.) Ait.	(")
Fig. 12	Pelargonium flavum (L.) Ait.	(")

- Tab. LXXXV (85)
- | | | |
|--------|--|------------------|
| Fig. 1 | Satyrium striatum Thunb. ? | (Orchidaceae) |
| Fig. 4 | Boophane sp. ? (Leaves and flowers should appear separately) | (Amaryllidaceae) |
| Fig. 5 | Amaryllis belladonna L. | (Amaryllidaceae) |
| Fig. 6 | Eucomis sp. or Whiteheadia | (Liliaceae) |
| Fig. 7 | ? | (Orchidaceae) |
- Tab. LXXXVI (86)
- | | | |
|--------|--|------------------|
| Fig. 1 | Satyrium acuminatum Lindl. ? | (Orchidaceae) |
| Fig. 2 | Satyrium sp. ? | (") |
| Fig. 3 | Pterygodium sp. ? | (") |
| Fig. 4 | Haemanthus sp. (Leaves and flowers should appear separately) | (Amaryllidaceae) |
| Fig. 5 | Euphorbia loricata Lam. | (Euphorbiaceae) |
| Fig. 6 | Euphorbia hamata | (") |
- Tab. LXXXVII (87)
- | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Fig. 1 | Gladiolus carinatus Ait. | (Iridaceae) |
| Fig. 2 | Synnotia sp. ? | (") |
| Fig. 3 | ? | (") |
| Fig. 4 | Drimia sp. ? | (Liliaceae) |
| Fig. 5 | Wurmbea spicata (Burm.) Dur. | (") |
- Tab. LXXXVIII (88)
- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Fig. 1 | Aloe variegata Linn | (Liliaceae) |
| Fig. 2 | Aloe melanacantha Berger | (") |
| Fig. 3 | Aloe Khamiesensis ? Pillans | (") |
| Fig. 4 | Othonna sp. | (Compositae) ? |
| Fig. 5 | Othonna | (") |
| Fig. 6 | ? | (Mesembryanthemaceae) |
| Fig. 7 | Dorotheanthus | (") |
| Fig. 8 | ? | (") |
| Fig. 9 | ? | (") |
- Tab. LXXXIX (89)
- | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Fig. 1 | Cotyledon wallichii | (Crassulaceae) |
| Fig. 2 | Cotyledon | (") |
| Fig. 3 | ? Aloe plicatilis | (Liliaceae) |
| Fig. 4 | Cotyledon orbiculata L. | (Crassulaceae) |
| Fig. 5 | Erica sp. ? | (Ericaceae) |
| Fig. 6 | ? Crassula | (Crassulaceae) |
| Fig. 7 | Crassula ? or Rochea subulata | (") |
| Fig. 8 | Agathosma sp. ? | (Rutaceae) |
| Fig. 9 | Diosma sp. ? | (") ? |
- Tab. XC (90)
- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Fig. 1 | Euphorbia caput-medusae L. | (Euphorbiaceae) |
| Fig. 2 | Euphorbia stellispina Haw. | (") |
| Fig. 3 | Euphorbia sp. | (") |
| Fig. 4 | Stapelia variegata L. | (Asclepiadaceae) |
| Fig. 5 | Pharnaceum ? | (") |
| Fig. 6 | Vauanthes dichotoma (L) Ok. | (Crassulaceae) |
| Fig. 7 | Erica sp. ? | (Ericaceae) |
| Fig. 8 | Aponogeton sp. | (Aponogetonaceae) |
| Fig. 9 | Crassula sp. | (Crassulaceae) |

REFERENCES

- BARNARD, K. H. 1947. A description of the Codex Witsensii in the South African Museum.
J.S. Afr. Bot. 13: 1—51, pls. 1—12.
- HEAWOOD, E. 1924. The use of watermarks in dating old maps & documents. *Geogr. J.*
63, 391—412; 4 pls.
- REYNOLDS, G. W. 1950. Aloes of South Africa.
- SMITH, A. H. 1952. Claudius water colour drawings in the Africana Museum.
- WATERHOUSE, G. 1932. Simon van der Stel's expedition to Namaqualand, 1685—6.
- WILLIAMSON, J. B. 1925. History of the Temple.